

Politico yesterday titled “White House Avoids Specific Positions on Cybersecurity Bills.”

We’re being attacked by cybersnoopers and state sponsors of cyberespionage like China, Russia, and Iran. But the White House is throwing its hands up in the air, unwilling to lead. The President refused to take a position because advisers in the White House wanted to go farther in ceding authority to the Department of Homeland Security, which can’t even manage the dysfunctional Transportation Security Administration. Washington always wants more power and more control.

My colleagues, Congressmen ROGERS and RUPPERSBERGER, have worked together in a very diligent and bipartisan manner to educate and articulate the need for cyberintelligence sharing and protections. The Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act will help us defend against advanced cyberattackers and hackers that want to steal our private or our government information. It also maintains protections for individuals’ privacy. The bill’s language is specific. It doesn’t allow the government to use shared information for non-cybersecurity purposes. It requires an independent inspector general to audit voluntary information shared with the government, and it legally enforces restrictions on government uses of this information.

The voluntary information-sharing framework is preferable because incentive-based security works better than heavy-handed mandates, but the White House and the Senate Democrats disagree with the technology experts. They think there’s a cookie-cutter way to address evolving cybersecurity challenges. But we shouldn’t pretend to have all of the answers, and we shouldn’t let DHS play Whac-A-Mole. We should not and cannot allow the government’s massive bureaucracy to expand. It’s constantly suffocating innovation and entrepreneurship in this country.

This legislation presents a framework that is flexible and dynamic, not one that is static and top-down. This approach is narrow, not presumptive. The tech industry wants to focus its energy resources and attention on real-time, dynamic threats, and responses.

Moreover, government shouldn’t be telling anyone how to regulate critical infrastructure when it hasn’t been able to get its own networks and systems secure. The Office of Budget and Management reported almost 42,000 attacks on Federal networks in 2010, an increase of almost 40 percent over the previous year. That’s why I’m happy to see Congressman DARRELL ISSA’s bill coming to the floor. Without a doubt, we need better oversight on our Federal information-technology systems.

Each day brings new challenges in the fight to protect our Nation’s virtual space and technology innovation, but the cybersecurity bills before the floor this week are unlike the pro-regu-

latory frameworks that typically characterize Washington’s policymaking. Let’s move forward with the common-sense voluntary tools we need to strengthen our cyberdefenses, the Internet economy, and the “virtual you.” Let’s show some leadership.

#### EARL SCRUGGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, the Master from Flint Hill, the Innovator of the Three-Finger Banjo Style—these are the names given to one of North Carolina and my congressional district’s favorite sons.

Mr. Speaker, the welcome sign for the city of Shelby in my district says: “Welcome to Shelby, city of pleasant living, home of Earl Scruggs.”

Indeed, Shelby, Cleveland County, and all of North Carolina, and indeed the Nation, are mourning the loss of musical icon Earl Scruggs, who passed away last month at the age of 88. When you think of the word “bluegrass,” a few names come to mind: Bill Monroe, Doc Watson, and, of course, Earl Scruggs.

Earl grew up on a farm in the Flint Hill community in Shelby and worked in the Lily cotton mill. That’s until he was given the chance to play in Bill Monroe’s band. That led him to quickly strike off on his legendary career with Lester Flatt. Together, Flatt and Scruggs defined bluegrass music in the 1950s and the 1960s, recording such classics as “The Ballad of Jed Clampitt” and “Foggy Mountain Breakdown.”

Earl received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2003, was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1985, and received numerous Grammys, including the Lifetime Achievement Award. He also recorded with musicians as diverse as Johnny Cash, Sting, and even Elton John.

Most importantly for his beloved hometown of Shelby, his legend will live on locally.

□ 1050

Thanks to an overwhelming community effort for the past several years, work is now under way to turn the historic 105-year-old Cleveland County Courthouse into the Earl Scruggs Center. This effort will focus on music and stories and preserve the legacy of Earl Scruggs.

Drawing on the region’s rich history and music, the Scruggs Center will enlighten, educate, and celebrate the people, traditions, and values of Cleveland County and the region, for that matter, all the while honoring Earl Scruggs.

Legendary comedian and accomplished banjo player Steve Martin summed up Earl’s legacy best when he said, “Before him, no one had ever played the banjo like he did. After him, everybody played the banjo like he did, or at least tried.”

Imitation is the kindest form of flattery, and, indeed, Earl Scruggs has many folks that try to emulate what he created. He will be missed.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 1 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 10 o’clock and 51 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1300

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 1 p.m.

#### PRAYER

Reverend Matthew Barnes, Capital Commission Indiana, Indianapolis, Indiana, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You for civil government and the power that You invest in each of the Members in the people’s House. With that power comes tremendous responsibility and sacrifice.

We know that Your son Jesus had all power in Heaven and in Earth, yet He condescended to our low estate in a grand act of service to mankind.

Truly, “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”

We ask that such noble acts of courage, commitment, and compassion be evident in the men and women leading the United States.

Help them to remember that they serve their fellow citizens and are accountable to You, the Almighty God.

In the midst of this sacrificial service, may they make time to spend with their families and with You. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day’s proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. STUTZMAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. STUTZMAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.